

REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the courtesies extended to Applicant's undersigned attorney during the September 21, 2006 telephone interview, during which allowability of claim 14 was discussed. Reconsideration of this application and the rejection of claims 1, 3-9 and 11-14 are respectfully requested. Applicant has attempted to address every objection and ground for rejection in the Office Action dated June 27, 2006 (Paper No. 20060623), which has been made Final, and believes the application is now in condition for allowance, or in the alternative, in better form for appeal. The claims have been amended to more clearly describe the present invention.

Claims 1-8 and 14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, because the Examiner contends that the claims contain subject matter which was not described in the specification at the time the application was filed. Accordingly, Applicant has amended claims 1 and 14 to remove the "integrally formed" language and submits that as amended, claims 1-8 are consistent with the subject matter described in the specification. Applicant submits that as recognized by the Examiner, amended claim 14 is in allowable form. Therefore, Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of claim 14.

Claims 1, 3, 4, 6 and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Crittenden, et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,325,954). Crittenden discloses an orienter including a plurality of shafts 20 each including a plurality of spaced discs 28 that are movably arranged thereon. The discs 28 are constructed

and arranged for movement along the shaft 28 in order to suit the application. (Col. 4, ll. 15-29).

In contrast, amended claim 1 now incorporates features of canceled claim 6 and recites, among other things, “a first elongate shaft secured to the support frame and having a first plurality of axially spaced disks axially fixed to said first shaft; a second elongate shaft secured to the support frame and having a second plurality of axially spaced disks axially fixed to said second shaft; said first shaft being disposed relative to said second shaft to be horizontally aligned and so that said disks intermesh with each other...” Applicant submits that as amended, claim 1 is patentably distinct from Crittenden, because, as recognized by the Examiner, Crittenden fails to disclose or suggest disks that are axially fixed to their respective shafts and shafts that are horizontally aligned with each other. (See Crittenden, col. 4, ll. 15-29). Accordingly, Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of claims 1-8 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b).

Claims 1 and 3-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Paul (U.S. Pat. No. 5,340,518). Paul discloses cores 124, 125 each including a plurality of rollers 118, 120 that are movable along their respective cores. Sheet material 22 passes under the rollers 118, 120 and is formed into a corrugated shape. (Col. 5, ll. 38-51).

In contrast, as recited above traversing Crittenden, claim 1 has been amended to recite, among other things, disks axially fixed to their respective shafts and the shafts are horizontally aligned. Applicant submits that, as noted by the

Examiner, the disks in Paul are adjustable along and removable from their respective shafts, and accordingly are not “axially fixed” to the shaft, as recited in amended claim 1. (See Paul, col. 5, ll. 42-46). Therefore, Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of claims 1 and 3-8 based on Paul.

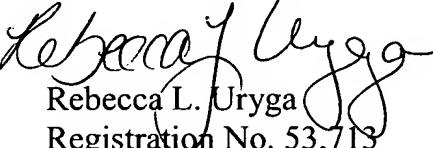
Claims 9 and 11-13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Gonda et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 2,655,978). Gonda discloses a machine including a plurality of arc-shaped or bowed-out shafts each including a plurality of feed wheels that are axially adjustable along the shaft. (Col. 19, ll. 37-55).

In contrast, claim 9 has been amended to incorporate features of cancelled claim 13 and now recites, among other things, “a first elongate support shaft secured to the frame and having a first plurality of relatively large diameter disks axially fixed to said shaft in between a first plurality of relatively small diameter disks; a second elongate support shaft secured to the frame and having a second plurality of relatively large diameter disks axially fixed to said shaft in between a first plurality of relatively small diameter disks; said first and second support shafts positioned relative to each other to be horizontally aligned and so that said first plurality of relatively large diameter disks are intermeshed with said second plurality of relatively large diameter disks...” Applicant submits that, as conceded by the Examiner, the wheels 10 and 11 in Gonda are movable along their respective shafts, and are not “axially fixed,” as recited in amended claim 9. (See Gonda, col. 19, ll. 37-55). Accordingly, Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of claims 9 and 11-13 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b).

In view of the above amendments, the application is respectfully submitted to be in allowable form, or in the alternative, in better form for appeal. Allowance of the rejected claims is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner discover there are remaining issues which may be resolved by a telephone interview, she is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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